

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A disposal container for spent ~~light~~ fluorescent bulbs, comprising:

~~a seamless tube of 2 mil puncture resistant plastic adapted to contain only one light bulb having an open end and a sealed at the other end, the tube being from about three inches to about three feet long; and~~

~~means for sealing the open end after a spent light fluorescent bulb is inserted inside the tube [[for]] thereby providing a glass shard puncture resistant gas impervious container for the fluorescent bulb.~~

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The container of claim 1, ~~wherein the tube further comprises an insert further comprising a strip of sulfur impregnated activated carbon paper located inside the tube for absorbing [[the]] any gasses such as mercury released from a broken light fluorescent bulb.~~

4. (Currently Amended) The container of claim 1, ~~wherein the tube further comprises further comprising a desiccant package of sulfur-impregnated activated carbon granules located inside the tube.~~

5.-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) The container of claim 1, ~~wherein the tube comprises is a~~ puncture-resistant light mil plastic with a heavy paper liner.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) The container of claim [[11]] 10, ~~wherein the tube further comprises further comprising a strip of sulfur-impregnated activated carbon paper located inside the paper liner.~~

13. (Currently Amended) The container of claim 12, ~~wherein the tube further comprises further comprising a strip of sulfur chalk attached to the paper liner.~~

14. (Currently Amended) The container of claim 13, ~~wherein the paper liner further comprises further comprising sulfur impregnated into the paper liner.~~

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Withdrawn) A method of handling and disposing of one or more light bulbs in a disposal tube having an open end and a closed end, said method comprising:

inserting one or more light bulbs into the open end of the disposal tube; closing the open end of the disposal tube containing the one or more light bulbs; and

shattering the glass of the one or more light bulbs contained within the disposal tube by striking the closed disposal tube with a blunt force object or dropping the closed disposal tube onto a hard surface.

17. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 16, further comprising sealing the open end of the disposal tube containing the one or more light bulbs following the closing step.

18. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 16, further comprising disposing of the glass from the shattered light bulb(s).

19. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 16, further comprising disposing of the disposal tube and the shattered light bulb(s) contained therein.

20. (Withdrawn) A method of handling a light bulb, comprising:
providing a disposal tube comprising one or more layers of puncture-resistant material, said tube having an open end and a closed end;
inserting the light bulb into the open end of the disposal tube;
closing the open end of the disposal tube with the bulb contained therein; and
transporting the light bulb within the disposal tube.

21. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 20, wherein the tube further comprises a means for absorbing metals or gasses released from the light bulb upon breakage.

22. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 20, further comprising storing the light bulb in the disposal tube until the bulb is removed therefrom.

23. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 20, further comprising
removing the transported light bulb from within the disposal tube; placing into the thus empty disposal tube one or more light bulbs to be discarded;
closing and sealing the open end of the disposal tube containing the one or more light bulbs to be discarded; and
shattering the glass of the one or more light bulbs contained within the disposal tube by striking the sealed disposal tube with a blunt force object or dropping the sealed disposal tube onto a hard surface.

24. (Withdrawn) A disposal tube for disposing of one or more light bulbs comprising a cylindrical shape, having an open end and an opposing closed end, and having a means for closing and/or sealing the open end of the tube after the one or more bulbs have been inserted therein.

25. (Withdrawn) The disposal tube of claim 24, further comprising a means for absorbing metals or gasses released from the one or more light bulbs upon breakage.

26. (Withdrawn) The disposal tube of claim 24, wherein the tube comprises puncture-resistant material, or a combination of more than one layer of materials, wherein at least one layer comprises puncture-resistant material.

27. (Withdrawn) The disposal tube of claim 26, wherein the puncture-resistant material is plastic.

28. (Withdrawn) The disposal tube of claim 26, wherein there is more than one layer, and wherein at least one layer of the puncture-resistant material is plastic or heavy paper.